



October 15-18, 2009 -- Military plagued by pedophile ring in early 1980s

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In the early 1980s, as former Senator Larry Craig (R-ID) was embroiled in another underage sex scandal involving male congressional pages, the U.S. military was plagued by a series of investigations involving pedophiles on active duty in three armed services, all based in and around the San Francisco Bay Area.

A retired investigator for the Defense Investigative Service (DIS) told WMR that the ring he investigated was based at the Navy P-3 Orion Anti-submarine warfare (ASW) squadrons based at Naval Air Station Moffett Field, the Sunnyvale Air Force Station, and the U.S. Army base at the Presidio in San Francisco.

The ring also extended to other West coast military bases and to locations where Moffett-based P-3s deployed, including the Philippines and Guam.

Although few arrests were made in the military pedophile scandal, many of those tagged by investigators were permitted to continue to serve in the military until retirement. In one case, a flag-rank U.S. naval officer identified in the ring was ordered to immediately retire.

Law enforcement agencies involved in the investigation of the ring included, in addition to DIS, the Naval Investigative Service, the Air Force Office of Special Investigation, and the FBI. Orders from the "very top," that is, the Reagan White House, ensured the key perpetrators were not prosecuted.

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